

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03
TRSE-00 STR-07 XMB-02 AID-05 OMB-01 /063 W
-----076958 110821Z /10

P 110815Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8929
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 06092

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR, ETRD, TW
SUBJECT: DC-10/AIRBUS COMPETITION

REF: A. STATE 228431, B. TAIPEI 6006

1. THIS MORNING I CONVEYED TO GOVERNOR OF THE CENTRAL BANK YU KUO-HUA POINTS A AND B CONTAINED REFTEL A.
2. GOVERNOR YU REPLIED THAT IF CHINA AIRLINES CANNOT GET THE LANDING RIGHTS IN PARIS THEY WILL NOT REPEAT NOT BUY THE AIRBUS; IN OTHER WORDS THE TWO MATTERS ARE CLEARLY TIED TOGETHER AS FAR AS THE ROC IS CONCERNED.
3. WHETHER IN THIS EVENT CHINA AIRLINES WOULD BUY THE MCDONNELL-DOUGLAS DC-10 IS STILL QUESTIONABLE FOR THE REASONS MENTIONED REFTEL B, I.E., THEIR DESIRE NOT TO PROLIFERATE THE TYPES OF AIRCRAFT FOR WHICH THEY MUST PROVIDE MAINTENANCE AND CREW TRAINING. IF THE FRENCH DEAL DOES NOT GO THROUGH AND THE ROC DECIDES AGAINST THE DC-10, THE LIKELIHOOD IS THAT SOME ADDITIONAL PURCHASE OVER AND ABOVE WHAT IS NOW PLANNED WILL BE MADE FROM BOEING, BUT HE EMPHASIZED THAT THERE IS NOT YET ANY DECISION ON THIS MATTER.

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4. COMMENT: IF THE INFORMATION PROVIDED US BY FRENCH GOVERNMENT IS TRUE, THE GROC WOULD SOONER OR LATER HAVE LEARNED ON ITS OWN THAT THERE WAS NO DEAL FOR SECURING THEM LANDING RIGHTS IN PARIS AND THEY WOULD THEN HAVE DROPPED ANY PLANS TO PURCHASE THE AIRBUS. NOW THAT WE HAVE INTERVENED AS AGGRESSIVELY AS WE HAVE, IT IS THE

UNITED STATES THAT WILL BEAR THE ONUS FOR PREVENTING THE
ROC FROM SECURING LANDING RIGHTS WHICH, THEY BELIEVED,
WOULD HAVE GIVEN THEM REAL COMMERCIAL BENEFITS TO SAY
NOTHING OF SOME POLITICAL COMFORT. UNGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SALES, COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT, LANDING RIGHTS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TAIPEI06092
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780369-0296
Format: TEL
From: TAIPEI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780979/aaaacnxw.tel
Line Count: 66
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 827de852-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 228431, 78 TAIPEI 6006
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1477682
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DC-10/AIRBUS COMPETITION
TAGS: EAIR, ETRD, TW
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/827de852-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014